

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-8, 9-12, 14-15, 16-17, 19-21 are Allowable

The Office has indicated, at paragraph 7 of the Office Action, that claims 2 and 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the elements of the base claim and intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for these allowances.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1. Applicants have incorporated the elements of claim 2 into independent claim 1. Hence, claim 1 is allowable. Claims 3-8 depend from claim 1. Hence, claims 3-8 are also allowable.

Claim 13 depends from claim 9. Applicants have incorporated the elements of claim 13 into independent claim 9. Hence, claim 9 is allowable. Claims 10-12 and 14-15 depend from claim 9. Hence, claims 10-12 and 14-15 are also allowable.

In a telephonic interview with the Examiner held on November 15, 2007, at approximately 4:50 P.M. EST, the Examiner indicated that claim 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the elements of the base claim and intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for this allowance.

Claim 18 depends from claim 16. Applicants have incorporated the elements of claim 18 into independent claim 16. Hence, claim 16 is allowable. Claims 17-21 depend from claim 16. Hence, claims 17-21 are also allowable.

Claims 22-24 are Allowable

New claims 22-24 are fully supported by the Specification, at paragraphs 0013-0014 of the Specification. Claims 22-24 depend from allowable claim 1, and are therefore allowable.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the objections and rejections, as well as an indication of the allowability of each of the pending claims.

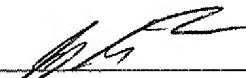
Any changes to the claims in this amendment, which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below if such a call would in any way facilitate allowance of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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